



# The Eagle

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## News Bits

### Congress OKs new SMDC Huntsville building

The new U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command Huntsville complex is approved for construction. The groundbreaking ceremony for the 220,000 square foot, \$39 million facility will occur sometime in mid-2001.

In addition, the U.S. Congress has designated the center, which may include additional buildings, as the Wernher von Braun Complex. The von Braun Complex will be located on Redstone Arsenal at the corner of Martin and Mills Roads.

Updates on the von Braun construction project will follow in future issues of The Eagle.

### Travel Reminder

Department of Defense civilian employees are required to receive a pre-travel briefing before going overseas on personal travel.

Security officials note that even if the pre-travel briefing was not required, turmoil in various regions make the briefing a prudent choice of action.

Employees planning overseas travel must contact their briefing officer at least 30 days before departure.

### Wanted: SMDC News

Do you know a fellow employee who deserves recognition, an office that has performed exceptionally well or do you have a story other SMDC employees would find entertaining? Send an e-mail with the details to:

Eagle Editor@smdc.army.mil.

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## SMDC fares well in 2001 budget appropriations

by Jonathan W. Pierce  
Huntsville, Ala.

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) received significant funding in the FY 2001 budget appropriations released in October. Among the affected programs are the solid-state laser at the High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility (HELSTF), the activities of the Advanced Research Center and a number of Army Space Defense Systems Integration Programs.

HELSTF, located at White Sands, N.M., received \$37.5 million to provide research, development, testing and evaluation of high-powered laser systems. This appropriation was \$23 million above the program budget request. The heat capacity solid-state laser program was a big winner receiving \$20 million of the HELSTF appropriation.

HELSTF and the Tactical High Energy Laser (THEL) program have successfully developed and used lasers to destroy rockets. Both the Mid-Infrared Advanced Chemical Laser (MIRACL) and THEL use chemicals to create mega-watt continuous wave lasers. The

development of the heat capacity solid-state laser will create its beam from electronics rather than chemicals. The solid-state laser will lead to miniaturization of components and the possibility that such lasers could be put on mobile platforms. HELSTF hopes to be able to develop a 100-kilowatt demonstration laser based on a successful 10-kilowatt prototype developed by the Army and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. The THEL program received \$15 million toward development of a mobile THEL.

The Advanced Research Center (ARC) appropriation of \$18 million is one third larger than the program budget request. The ARC supports both theater and national missile defense programs. Congress expressed interest in researching optical data and sensor fusion for detection and discrimination of advanced threats, missile plumes, and penetration aids using image processing and optical discrimination algorithms.

SMDC programs in Army Missile Defense Systems Integration received more than \$40 million above the program budget request.

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## SMDC executive gets DA honor

by Gerda Sherrill  
Huntsville, Ala.

A top executive in the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) received the Army's highest award for civilian service Nov. 2 at the Pentagon.

The Honorable Louis Caldera, the Secretary of the Army, honored Mark Lumer, the SMDC Contracting executive, with the Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service during the "Secretary of the Army 2000 Awards" ceremony. Lumer was cited for "having been essential in making SMDC first within the Department of Defense to achieve the Standard Procurement System (a paperless acquisition process) and declare full operational capability."



Mr. Mark Lumer

The citation continues, "His (Lumer's) exemplary leadership led to the creation of the Army's first Contracting and Acquisition Career Program Strategic Plan."

At SMDC, Lumer, a member of the Senior Executive Service and the Army Acquisition Corps, oversees the annual expenditure of approximately \$2 billion and a staff of approximately 75 people. His office has received four Secretary of the Army

Contracting awards in the last two years, and last April he was selected as the Army's Civilian Contracting Professional of the Year.

Before coming to SMDC, Lumer worked in the Pentagon, where he was the Army policy representative on the Defense Acquisition Regulatory Council for four years. As such he established the Army's position on revisions and changes to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and the Defense FAR Supplement.

After the ceremony, Lumer said, "Nobody who receives this decoration earns it by him- or herself. In my case, the contracting personnel of SMDC made me a hero by accepting this extraordinary mandate for change and by knocking their heads against the wall until they made the Standard Procurement System work. The achievement is theirs.

"On the Strategic Plan, the support I had from internal and external assets was exceptional, and the cooperation from other Army contracting commands made it easy to do. On behalf of the SMDC Contracts Office and the top notch employees who work there, and with thanks to the other Army contracting personnel who worked on the plan, I accept this award."

His awards include the Meritorious Civilian Service medal, the Superior Civilian Service medal, and the Commander's Award for Civilian Service. He holds a master's of business administration degree, and has attended Albany Law School. He is a 1993 graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and a Certified Associate Contracts Manager.

## Leadership Commentary

# Army leadership thankful for service of soldiers, civilians

Thanksgiving is the time when we pause to express our gratitude for the blessings of peace, freedom, and opportunity that are the birthright of all Americans. In his first Thanksgiving Proclamation in 1789, George Washington asked the American people to give thanks "for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have enjoyed." Fortunately, over two centuries later, we still enjoy these wonderful gifts. That we can do so is due in no small measure to the eternal vigilance and sacrifice of the men and women of the U.S. Army.

And so on this special day, we offer our appreciation to you, the soldiers and civilians of The Army, who serve our nation with a level of devoted service unparalleled in any

other profession. Each day, 24 hours a day, you willingly step forward to defend the American people from all enemies, foreign and domestic, and to uphold the values and principles that we hold so dear. Wherever you serve, at installations here at home or at duty stations abroad, the American people appreciate your hard work and daily sacrifices, because they know that their security and prosperity are possible only because you defend their liberties.

Grateful citizens of over 70 countries welcome your service because they directly benefit from the presence of the trained and dedicated soldiers deployed in their lands. From preserving democracy in Korea to rebuilding civil society in the Balkans, you are an inspiration and

example to peoples who see in you the hope and bounty of America.

And so to all of you, the dedicated men and women of the U.S. Army, uniformed and civilian - and especially to those of you who serve far from hearth and family — we offer special thanks for the difficult and dangerous work that you are doing in behalf of the citizens of our great nation.

We wish all of you and your loved ones a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday.

*Eric K. Shinseki*  
General, United States Army  
Chief of Staff

*Louis Caldera*  
Secretary of the Army

# Veterans Day honors heroism, sacrifice

Each year, the nation sets aside November 11 as a day to honor the heroism and sacrifice of America's soldiers, past and present. Veterans Day is the time we recall the courageous legacy of soldiers who fought in our nation's wars, from the War of Independence to the Persian Gulf. It is also a moment for us to pause and express our appreciation for the fierce dedication of the many soldiers who serve in our ranks today.

In the 225 years since the Army's establishment, American soldiers have answered the call of duty with honor and dauntless courage. From the snows of Valley Forge to the slopes of Little Round Top, from the forests of Meuse-Argonne, to the beaches of Normandy, from the frozen hills of the Chosun Reservoir to the burning sands of Kuwait, the men and women of the U.S. Army have demonstrated their invincible spirit and their love of freedom and human dignity.

Today, the men and women of the U.S. Army are trusted warriors who save lives, uphold the values that made America great, and defend the principles of democracy. At this very

hour, thousands of soldiers are preserving the fragile peace in Korea and helping quell ethnic violence and rebuild civil society in the Balkans. They support anti-drug efforts in Latin America, provide humanitarian demining assistance to the nations of Africa, and engage in confidence-building exercises with former Warsaw Pact states of Eastern Europe.

They are carrying on a legacy of valor and service that soldiers before them established through the long years of our nation's history. Because of the tradition of excellence established by their predecessors before them in the long green line, soldiers today are able to face each challenge, accept every danger, and overcome all obstacles with confidence and unparalleled dedication. They are a shining example of all that is best in America: They are the vessel that embodies our nation's virtues; they are the strong right arm that shields our freedoms; and they are the mortar that helps bind our nation together in common purpose.

We cherish and honor our veter-

ans and serving soldiers. We remember that they are the American heroes who answered the nation's call, doing the hard work of preserving the peace and freedom all Americans enjoy, and bringing hope and justice to people throughout the world. Whatever achievements our nation has attained, whatever bounty we have been granted, we owe to the men and women who have stood guard at the front lines of our Republic.

And so on this day of reflection, a grateful nation thanks our veterans — young and old, those yet living and those who fell on foreign battlefields or are buried in the hallowed ground of cemeteries across our land — for all they have done and continue to do for the citizens of our great country.

*Eric K. Shinseki*  
General, United States Army  
Chief of Staff

*Louis Caldera*  
Secretary of the Army

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# SMDC boots up for Security Awareness Day 2000 Nov. 30

In recent months, newspapers have been filled with articles on the threats posed to our programs, technologies, operations, personnel and facilities.

Space and Missile Defense activities are among the most sensitive within the Department of Defense and are routinely targeted for exploitation. A myriad of threats seek to exploit our computers, our telecommunications, our lapses in security, and even our garbage. As such, we need to routinely remind ourselves of our obligation to safeguard our business.

Security Awareness Day 2000, Thursday, Nov. 30, offers us the opportunity to focus on these seri-

ous matters within the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC).

Coinciding with national Computer Security Awareness Day, SMDC activities will remind us about a variety of security concerns. Many facets of security, including: Automated Information Systems, Operations, Personnel, Information, Industrial and Physical, as well as Anti-terrorism/Force Protection, Foreign Disclosure and Counter-intelligence will be addressed.

The staff will take the opportunity to heighten command security awareness through briefings, interactive displays, demonstrations, websites, e-mail and other means.

Security awareness is an imperative issue in the Command's mission of providing space and missile defense capabilities for the warfighter and the nation.

A fundamental security awareness is critical as we execute the Command's mission and strategic planning process. Join our Intelligence and Security, Information Management, and Operations teams in observing this important Command event.

For more information on Security Awareness Day 2000 please contact Ms. Brenda Turner, (256) 955-5468 or DSN 645-5468, or visit your directorate/staff security monitor.

## *Taps* is the music of the soldier's soul

by **Jonathan W. Pierce**  
Huntsville, Ala.

Recently I stood at a soldier's graveside listening to the haunting strains of *Taps*. *Taps* is a military bugle call composed during the U.S. Civil War. Both Union and Confederate forces used it, first as a final bugle call of the day, then as a funeral call.

There is a feeling that soldiers, veterans, and family members share at the playing of *Taps*. The uninitiated may call it romantic, but *Taps* doesn't call to mind, heart or soul the amorous feelings of love. It evokes rather poignant feelings of fealty, brotherhood and sisterhood. Those who have never stood in harm's way may never fully understand the allegiant bond, the sense of loss, nor the appreciative acceptance of valor offered by those who have lived and served well in defending our nation.

*Taps* envelops us in the quiet; our emotions rise with its notes and fall with those tones by which we say goodbye. The notes themselves, played by the musically gifted, speak volumes to our souls. The words ascribed to the music give voice to our thoughts. The stories behind *Taps* belong to the lore of the Civil War.

One story concerns a Union captain, Robert Ellison, who after a battle near Harrison's Landing, Va., listened to the moans of a wounded soldier lying on the battlefield. Disregarding his own safety Ellison crawled to the soldier and pulled him back to his lines. Once there he discovered the wounded man was a Confederate soldier, who unfortunately had died during the rescue effort. When the soldier was turned face up Ellison found, to his dismay, the soldier was his son. His son had been studying music in the South when the war started and had

enlisted there. Searching his son's pockets, Ellison discovered a composition written by his son. Unable to perform a full military burial or even to obtain a military band, Ellison asked a bugler to play his son's music. *Taps*, according to this story, began here.

Arlington National Cemetery gives a different account prepared by Master Sgt. Jari A. Villanueva of the U.S. Air Force Band at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C. Villanueva is writing a book on the history of bugle calls in the United States and focuses on *Taps*.

Here the story of *Taps* also begins at Harrison's Landing. General Daniel Butterfield, well known for his unit specific bugle calls and organizational patches, was unhappy with the call for *Lights Out* believing it to be too formal an end to the hard labors of daily combat.

Following the Seven Days battle in July 1862, Butterfield called for his brigade bugler, Oliver Norton. Norton said in later years that Butterfield showed him a staff of music written on the back of an envelope and asked him to play it. After asking the bugler to lengthen and shorten some of the notes while maintaining the basic tune, Butterfield directed the bugler to play the music instead of *Lights Out*. The music was beautiful on that still summer night, according to Norton, and it was heard far beyond the limits of the brigade area. Norton reports that several buglers from neighboring units visited the next day to get copies of the tune.

Villanueva writes, it is unlikely Butterfield composed the music independently because Butterfield himself later said he could not write music. More likely, believes Villanueva, Butterfield revised a version of [Winfield] Scott's *Tattoo* he found in a military manual predating

the Civil War.

Who wrote *Taps* may be interesting to those who want to study Civil War lore. But what *Taps* is has risen above the matter of authorship – it is now a matter of ownership. *Taps* belongs to those who give their last full measure of devotion to the defense of the nation and its vital interests, and to those who offer, and have offered, that devotion and yet live. *Taps* belongs also to those who have lived as military family members and face the sacrifice of giving up their loved ones, that the greater population may live in peace.

*Taps* is for those who have known their duty and done it ... for those who have sacrificed for their country with honor ... for those who have loved their country and served it well.

*Taps* is the music of the soldier's soul.

### *Taps*

*Day is done  
Gone the sun  
From the lakes, from the hills, from  
the sky.  
All is well, safely rest  
God is nigh.*

*Fading light  
Dims the sight,  
And a star, gems the sky, gleaming  
bright  
From afar,  
Drawing nigh,  
Falls the night.*

*Thanks and praise,  
For our days,  
Neath the sun, neath the stars, neath  
the sky.  
As we go,  
This we know  
God is nigh.*

# ASPO fields tactical Army space systems

by **Jonathan W. Pierce**  
Huntsville, Ala.

From a division commander who wants imagery intelligence on an opposing force and the terrain he must operate on, to the brigade commander who needs to know where his units are deployed in real time, to the operations officer who needs to know when the weather will allow helicopter operations, warfighters are increasingly getting their answers from space.

Much of that space technology taps into capabilities once available only to strategic leaders at the national level. The Army Space Program Office (ASPO) was established 27 years ago to execute the Army Tactical Exploitation of National Capabilities (TENCAP) program. During that time, ASPO developed and fielded more than 60 TENCAP systems to provide technological space support for warfighters, according to ASPO director, Col. Darell Lance.

ASPO is an integral part of the Space and Missile Defense Command's (SMDC) Acquisition Center.

## Life Cycle Responsibility

"ASPO is unique among other SMDC programs in that we are involved in the entire life cycle of the systems we develop," said Lance. "We not only develop the systems, we also are involved in acquiring, fielding and maintaining them as well," he said.

ASPO has been so adept in managing its TENCAP programs that Congress directed each military service to establish their own programs based on the Army model.

The program, according to Lance, is responsible for providing tactical commanders with timely, dependable, all-weather, day and night battlefield intelligence from national space and theater reconnaissance systems.

"Our mission is twofold," Lance said. "We provide robust information and intelligence capabilities for tactical commanders by exploiting national intelligence assets. We also advance and protect Army Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) interests in the National Intelligence Community. In

this arena, ASPO has to articulate Army requirements, effect technology transfer and ensure the Army is able to exploit national capabilities."

## Tactical Exploitation System

ASPO has been working to decrease the number of ISR ground stations since the early 1990s. Much of their effort has been in combining the functions of multiple systems into the capabilities of one system which supports the Army Transformation goal of mobility. "The Tactical Exploitation System (TES) combines the functions of the Modernized Imagery Exploitation System, the Enhanced Tactical Radar Correlator and the Advanced Electronic Processing and Dissemination System," said Lance. "DOD and the services have acknowledged the advanced capabilities of TES and the Navy and Air Force are using all or parts of TES.

"As we move toward a joint targeting network, ASPO will add precision targeting software to TES. All of this works toward DOD's goal of a Distributed Common Ground System (DCGS)," said Lance. "We began articulating and validating DOD DCGS architectures when we fielded TES. Now, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Command, Control, and Communication and Intelligence (C3I), has asked ASPO to write the DCGS Capstone Requirements Document," he said.

TES is an open architecture system allowing quick, inexpensive changes, upgrades and programmed product improvements. It allows dynamic sensor retasking, imagery and signals intelligence exploitation and cross intelligence correlation and integration.

## User Support

Lance believes one of the reasons ASPO systems have worked so well is because of the strong connection it keeps with the users of its systems. "We get all the users together, twice each year, for the Army TENCAP User's Group. There are representatives there for every type of system we have fielded. We listen to what they have to say about the equipment and how it's being used.

Users get a chance to talk amongst themselves to discover how they can probably use their systems better. And we tell them what's going on in ASPO. Then we take the requirements they've expressed, prioritize what improvements they need and we either upgrade their software or develop new software to meet the need. Upgrades for our customers are easy because we continue to maintain their systems with on-site representatives who upgrade the systems for them," he said.

## Grenadier BRAT

Another example of ASPO systems is the Grenadier BRAT (Beyond line-of-sight Reporting and Tracking) program to be fielded between January and June 2001. Grenadier BRAT is a blue force tracking system that uses a small, lightweight transceiver. It identifies its location using global positioning system signals and then transmits its unit identification, location and a short message to friendly receivers over a signal that has a low probability of detection.

Communication is also important to the ASPO mission, according to Lance. "We are going to teach about a day of instruction at the Army Space Operations Officers Course where we will talk about dissemination architectures and national systems from the TENCAP perspective. Our goal is to help Functional Area 40 officers understand everything that's available to help them do their job from not only commercial imagery but also from classified national space assets.

"We also hold what we call the "Schoolhouse" for one week each year. We welcome about 25 people for an in-depth discussion on TENCAP systems. Attendees include members of the Army Space Support Teams, our contractors, new ASPO employees and people from SMDC. This year, we visited Northrop Grumman, our prime contractor, where participants were introduced to the TES. They saw its equipment, and its capabilities, how it does business, and how all its information is overlaid. They found the tour tremendously valuable and we got a lot of great comments as a result," he said.

# DeLong wins Safety Engineer of the Year Award

by **Steven K. Gover**  
Huntsville, Ala.

Recently, a Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) safety engineer received the prestigious System Safety Engineer of the Year Award at the System Safety Society's International Conference, in Fort Worth, Texas.

Tom DeLong, of the Safety Engineering Division, Weapons Directorate, was honored for his work on improving assembly and checkout processes on National Missile Defense programs. DeLong is the first SMDC engineer to win this award, according to Max Tomlin, chief of the System Engineering Division.

DeLong, a native of York, Pa., received his Electrical Engineering degree from Lehigh University and Master's in Industrial Engineering from Texas A&M. He has worked with SMDC since January 1991.

"Engineers are nominated by the System Safety Society Chapter, their supervisors, or others from around the country," Tomlin said. A committee then selects a winner.

DeLong's primary focus is to help program managers design and build safer weapons. "It's very inefficient not to include safety in the concept stage of a project," he

said. "My philosophy is to do it right the first time and design out the hazards," he added.

"Sometimes people put short-term schedule and cost considerations above long-term safety benefits. It usually doesn't work," DeLong noted.

In addition to his safety engineering ac-

complishments, DeLong is active in the Boy Scouts of America and Mensa (the high IQ society), and is a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Last year, he was voted Toastmaster of the Year by the Research Park Toastmasters for his public speaking abilities and contributions.

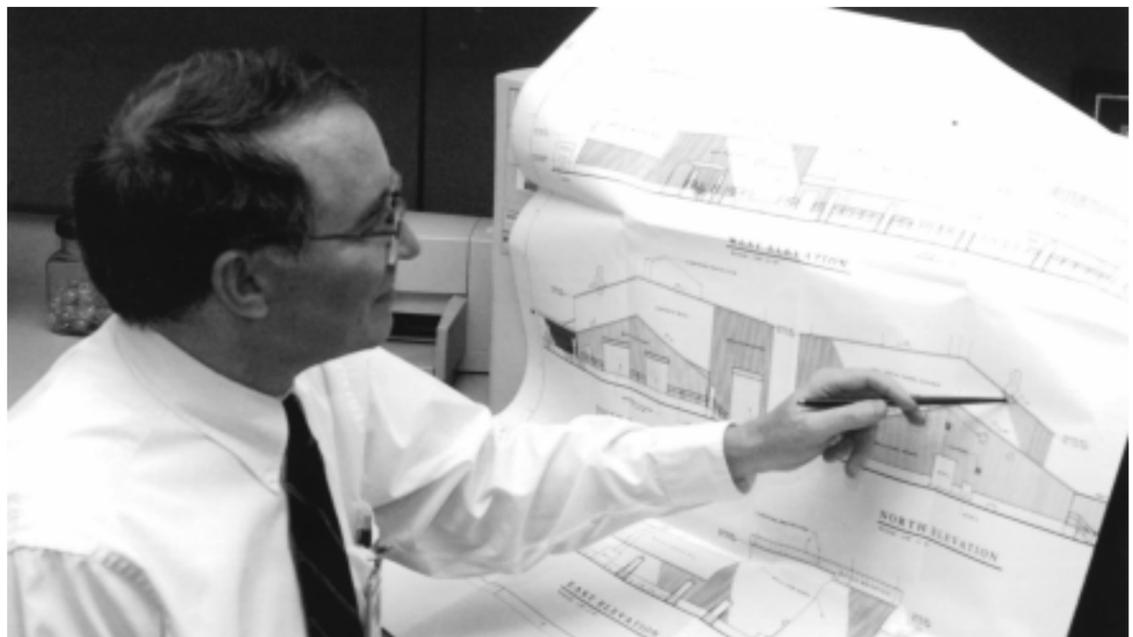


Photo by Steve Gover

Tom DeLong of SMDC's Safety Engineering Division, examines an engineering drawing for a Ground Based Interceptor building at Redstone Arsenal.

# Costello briefs media on Command

Lieutenant General John Costello, commanding general, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, briefed the news media on SMDC activities during the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Annual Meeting in mid-October.

Costello covered a number of SMDC programs in his opening remarks. A summary of his comments follow.

"In the springtime, we held a board of directors meeting and focused on our strategic goals and objectives," he said. The meeting considered two separate goals in the missile defense arena; Theater Missile Defense (TMD) capabilities and National Missile Defense (NMD) capabilities.

"As a result, from a philosophical standpoint, [we have] melded national and theater missile defense into missile defense and ballistic missile defense. [The meeting] set into motion a number of different preliminary efforts to approach missile defense from a holistic standpoint and interweave concepts for both national and theater missile defense," said Costello.

This approach has a number of implications in terms of coalitions, discussions on NMD, and linkages between the lower and upper tiers. "It's going to be very difficult and I'm not sure if we have it right," he said indicating that it deserves further discussion.

## Army Space Command

Costello recognized the creation of the 1st Space Battalion in Army Space Command (ARSPACE) last December. He also noted the brick and mortar commitment we have to U.S. Space Command with the ARSPACE headquarters building now under construction at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. It should be ready for occupancy in two years.

Costello expressed his appreciation for the Army's assignment of Col. (P) Rick Geraci as his deputy in Colorado Springs.

## A new major subordinate command

The integration of technology, across the board is important, according to Costello, who organized a new major subordinate element

the Office of Technology Integration and Interoperability (OTII).

The concept for this office arose out of an offsite meeting between the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO) and SMDC about two years ago.

One of the challenges SMDC faced was the command was developing technology in-house and it was doing a lot of technology support to universities and industry. "We were doing things and not talking to people," said Costello.

"There was not a sharing of technology, horizontally across the Army and [the] other services. We've got to fix that. We can't be buying the same products from Industry A, Industry B and Industry C. We've got to be smarter in [the] integration of technology."

It doesn't matter whether it's a small-scale infrared camera, or a communication device, developed for the soldier. "We've got to be more astute in sharing that technology," Costello said. "OTII is designed to do that, it's sort of an outreach office, if you will."

## Technical Center restructured

The general also recognized another restructuring within SMDC.

The BMDO gave the Army (SMDC) the responsibility for managing the Missile Defense technology base for all the services.

To manage the responsibility, Jess Granone reorganized the Technical Center in Huntsville and set up Army, Navy and Air Force Offices.

"We put a firewall between what we're doing for the Army in SMDC and what we're doing for BMDO in the management program," said Costello.

"We're on the verge of getting more synergy within the Missile Defense business. We've got to do that because the research and development budget consistently remains relatively low."

## Missile defense issues

The Patriot Advanced Capabilities-3 (PAC-3) has done superbly, according to Costello. The last launch, [the Saturday before the AUSA An-

nual Meeting in October] was a difficult, challenging target and [it] was successful, he said.

"We continually have the PAC-3 cost challenges. People are working very hard on that.

"With THAAD [Theater High Altitude Area Defense] I think there's a breakthrough here. You've got to see the THAAD modularized command post and its 'pit stop' technology," said Costello.

"As long as you get soldiers on equipment early with industry and the product manager, you're going to get good results."

## Laser weapons testings

The High Energy Laser System Test Facility experienced great success over the last few months, he said.

Starting with a single Katyusha rocket launch, and then with multiple two-rocket launches, the Tactical High Energy Laser (THEL) has proven its ability.

THEL has been developed for the government of Israel and in its current configuration, using Deuterium Fluoride (DF), it requires a lot of maintenance because it's a prototype.

Costello supports making a mobile THEL based on the DF system but he also runs the solid-state laser program.

"We're going to move the 10-kilowatt solid-state laser testbed...from Lawrence Livermore National Lab to [HELSTF at] White Sands," he said.

Industry has shown interest and Costello believes the cost can be quickly reduced. The objective is a 100-kilowatt laser that can be mounted on a HMMWV to support the Army Transformation.

"Over the next few years, I want to have created an honest broker atmosphere whereby we can make a decision about directed energy on the battlefield. Is DF the way to go? Is solid state the way to go? What are the near term and far term implications? We have to do a lot of 'military utility on the battlefield' work—atmospherics, weather, lethality. That's what we're going to do at White Sands. I'm very excited about it," he said.

# SETAC focuses on customer support

Exceptional customer support is the driving force behind the Systems Engineering and Technical Assistance Contract (SETAC) team, according to Ms. Lynne Washburn the SETAC team chief who works in the Space and Missile Defense Command's Contracting/Contracting and Acquisition Office.

Since its beginning just over three years ago, according to Washburn, SETAC specialists have processed more than 3,000 actions valued at more than \$460 million. These actions, she said, included more than 400 new task orders, as well as change orders, incremental funding, and a variety of administrative modifications to existing task orders.

The multiple-award, indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (ID/IQ) contracts are structured to support the ever-changing environment of SMDC and the Program Executive Office/Air and Missile Defense research and development community. SETAC, said Washburn, supports more than 400 customers throughout the country.

SETAC has been successful in significant reductions in processing time. "The procurement action lead time (PALT) for the award of new task orders was reduced from five days after receiving a requirement, in fiscal year 1997 to just two days in 1998. Currently, these actions are in 12 hours or less," she said. Similar, non-streamlined procedures have resulted in 60-to-90 day PALTs to execute task orders. Modification

to existing task orders are executed in an average of nine days. Other contracts take about 30 days.

Washburn said, in a recently completed review of SMDC's SETAC process, representatives of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ALT) found that no one in the Army completed similar actions within such a short time. Their report, she said, concluded that the SETACs were "efficient vehicles for placing requirements on contract..." and "consistent with a philosophy of risk management rather than risk aversion." Washburn noted positive comments are also received from SETAC customers and contractors.

The condensed PALT ensures that the ever-changing mission-essential technical and management efforts are met or exceeded each day, she said.

Two of the major factors for the improvements in handling SETAC task orders are the use of e-mail and templates for all actions, said Washburn. Compared to hardcopy requirements and formal memos or letter writing, using e-mail to issue formally-competed requirements packages, receipt of proposals and task order management plans, and daily communications with contractors and customers saves time and money, she said.

Using templates for all SETAC actions reduces both time requirements for customers and contract specialists. The ALT

review team stated, "The templates created by the contracting officer for use by customers are clear and easily understood and result in minimal documentation."

## BUDGET —

(Continued from Page 1)

The SMDC Battle Lab had a plus up of \$11 million to a total of \$20.2 million. SMDC Defense Systems Integration programs receiving funding include: Family of Systems Simulators (\$3 million), Acoustic Technology Research (\$4 million), Radar Power Technology (\$4 million), Scramjet Acoustic Combustion Enhancement (\$1.5 million) and Aero-Acoustic Instrumentation (\$3 million).

Other SMDC programs include Joint Tactical Ground Stations (\$6.2 million), the Tactical Exploitation of National Capabilities (TENCAP) (\$72 million overall), the Joint Land Attack Cruise Missile Defense Elevated Netted Sensor (JLENS) (\$26.9 million) and the Kinetic Energy - Anti-Satellite Program (\$3 million).

Kwajalein Missile Testing Range not only received its \$161 million budget request, Congress also decided to rename it the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site at Kwajalein Atoll.

The Discoverer II space-based moving target indicator (MTI) demonstration project was terminated.

# Soldiers ensure quality communications

We've all experienced that irritating loss of radio signal as we drive from one city to another. Weak signals, static interference, conflicting signals from other radio stations are annoying when we can't get the talk shows, music or sports programs we want.

But, loss or degradation of signals in military communications is not just annoying, it could have strategic or tactical importance to national security or the safety of personnel or missions.

You might expect the Army would have a few thousand soldiers making sure our vital communications remain effective. In reality it's just one battalion in the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command that ensures the quality of the signal so the content of communications get through.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Satellite Battalion headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colo., under Army Space Command, maintains the quality of DOD communication signals. With more than 300 soldiers, the battalion's six companies are stationed in California, Colorado, Maryland, Germany and Japan. One of those companies, B Company, is stationed at Fort Meade, Md.

"We provide the communications network and control the signals of the Defense Satellite Communications System (DSCS)," said Capt. John Gregor, commander of Bravo Company. The DSCS satellites, he said, support communications for tactical units, the National Command Authority and other organizations approved by the Joint Staff. And it's a mission that's growing even as the Army has been downsizing. In 1990 the battalion handled 378 missions. In 1999 the number of missions rose to 1,879.

The Air Force, according to Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Raynell Ferguson, the Operations Platoon sergeant, owns the satellites. "They launch them and they maintain the DSCS satellites' proper telemetry. But we control the communications payload," said Ferguson.

"We make sure there is a good signal so communications data can flow through the satellite and the terminal on the ground in the most efficient way possible," said Gregor.

"Some people might want to know that we monitor the signal gain – the strength and clarity of the signal but we don't actually see or hear the actual message," said Ferguson.

"We are bandwidth and power



Photo by Jonathan Pierce

Specialist Glen Miller and Staff Sgt. Harry Osborne check the signal strength from a Defense Satellite Communication Systems satellite.

managers. We direct the bandwidth and frequency of the signal and we determine the strength of the signal," he said.

Part of the mission is to set the gain parameters and then to make sure that actual gain is as close as possible to the predicted level.

Team members work 12 hours on and 12 hours off on rotating shifts.

"When I got here, I was overwhelmed," said Spec. Jason Smith.

Even after nine months of ad-

vanced individual training Smith still found the actual work to be a challenge.

"It is challenging and exciting," he said. "I like coming to work because I feel like I'm doing something important. It's not really difficult but you do need experience to really do well."

"One of the things that helps a lot here is we rotate positions. Everyone gets to know what happens at each of the terminals, and you don't get tired of doing just one thing," Smith said.

# Storm II target has successful flight

A Storm II target system, developed by the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) for the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO), successfully flew at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., in support of the PATRIOT Advanced Capability 3, or PAC-3, Developmental Test 6a (DT-6a) flight test on Oct. 14.

The Storm II is a tactical ballistic missile target typically used for test and evaluation of BMDO interceptor systems. The Storm II target flown was a single stage configuration including an SR-19 booster and a Maneuvering Tactical Target Vehicle (MTTV) reentry vehicle.

The MTTV, a modified Pershing II reentry vehicle, includes the Guidance and Control (G&C), Payload, and Radar sections. The MTTV Radar and G&C sections were modified to emulate the radar cross section signature characteristics of the defined threat for this mission.

The Storm II target was flown from Launch Complex 96 at Fort Wingate, N.M., on a 141 degree (northeast to southeast) flight azimuth to White Sands Missile Range to support an endoatmospheric intercept of the separated MTTV reentry vehicle by the PAC-3 system. The trajectory reached an apogee altitude of 104.7 kilometers and covered a ground range of

347 kilometers. The time of flight was 330 seconds. During the Boost phase, the SR-19 Thrust Vector Control nozzle provided the pitch and yaw control. The Pershing II Vane Control System was used to provide target roll control from launch plus 18 seconds through plus 50 seconds when the SR-19 Hot Gas Roll Control System was utilized. The SR-19 burned out at approximately launch plus 65 seconds followed by a successful separation of the MTTV reentry vehicle, second object deployment, and subsequent presentation at the altitude of interest, within the specified parameters. The MTTV reentry vehicle carried an instru-

mented submunition payload for this flight.

Prime contractor for the Storm II targets program is Orbital Sciences Corporation of Chandler, Ariz., supported by principal subcontractors Aerotherm Corporation of Mountain View, Calif., and ITT Systems and Sciences of Colorado Springs, Colo. The Space and Missile Systems Center of the U.S. Air Force provides the booster motor.

At SMDC, the program is managed by Lt. Col. Christopher W. Little, Theater Targets product manager in the Ballistic Missile Targets Joint Project Office, headed by Col. James D. Cambron.

## 1st Satellite Control Battalion in Europe

# SMDC single soldiers win \$2,000 for barracks

**LANDSTUHL, Germany** — "Taking pride in what we do every day is what it's all about, to include how we live," said Sgt. Carlos Sullivan, barracks NCO for Company C, 1<sup>st</sup> Satellite Control Battalion. "The \$2,000 we won will go a long way to making barracks life more comfortable for our soldiers." The soldiers are researching ideas for either an outside grilling and picnic area or a big screen TV for watching sporting events like the Super Bowl.

The prize money is the result of Charlie Company's

recent win for "Best Barracks" in the Kaiserslautern Military Community (KMC). "We competed against more than 100 other barracks and we won," Sullivan said. The win came in the category of best overall small-sized Single Enlisted Quarters.

Last June, the 415<sup>th</sup> Base Support Battalion (BSB) announced the first KMC Best Barracks competition. "Inspections of the barracks throughout the community were conducted in August by area command sergeants major, includ-

ing Command Sgt. Maj. Porterfield of the 415<sup>th</sup> BSB," said Capt. Cary Stolarcek, Charlie Company's commander.

Mr. Gary McGraw, project manager for Kaiserslautern Facility Engineering Services, ITT Federal Services International Corporation, presented a \$2,000 check to the soldiers living in the barracks on behalf of ITT. ITT FSIC is the base maintenance contractor for the Kaiserslautern Army Community; they maintain and repair buildings and perform minor

construction. "Keeping barracks in top condition is one of our highest quality of life issues," said McGraw. "As part of our partnership with the BSB, we saw this as an opportunity to make a meaningful corporate donation to the community."

Following the ceremony Stolarcek said, "Today is a great day for Charlie Company. The ceremony today represented the outstanding support provided to the soldiers within this community. And, of course, I am very proud of the hard work this achievement represents."

# Kwajalein tests parts ordering system

by **KW Hillis**  
**Kwajalein Atoll**

The amount of work currently required at U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll/Kwajalein Missile Range (USAKA/KMR) to order something as simple as a carburetor for a van will be dramatically reduced starting Jan. 1.

That's the "go live" date for Mimcom's Information Management System Open Enterprise (MIMS), which replaces GOLD+ as the supply management system, said Alison Lord, Supply Systems training specialist.

"Everyone will be able to see what's in all the warehouses. Right now they can't see [what's available]," she said. "They could possibly order something shipped in by air that's actually already on the island."

Automotive Supply supervisor Mel Sanchez agreed that the new system will be better.

"When someone would order, I would check all the automotive users ... and see if we had the parts," Sanchez said. "If I had a new part number I had to check [it against] all the old part numbers. That was a lot of work."

Sanchez is among Supply's first customers to test the new system in this phase of the project. After a few weeks of testing by specialists from many different departments, MIMS will be modified and then tested again, according to Lord.

Early testing is proving that MIMS is the right program for an antiquated system, according to Gina Blackwell, acting RSE project manager for Kwajalein Enterprise Asset Management System, or

KEAMS.

"The Gold+ system was not originally designed for the application we are putting it to. A lot of customization was required to force it to run in our environment and provide the functionality we needed. As a result, data is not always reliable, and sometimes even contradictory," Blackwell said. "MIMCOM matched 93 percent of our needs without any kind of adjustments to the product ... it gave us a lot of functionality."

Tuesday found Sanchez and Kabwij Bobo, who works in Supply Systems GOLD+ support, checking the functionality of the new MIMS computer screens in building 602.

"It takes getting used to, but I'm sure it's going to work out," Bobo said.

Sanchez added, "[Testing] gives us an opportunity to practice. It's the transition that's hard. I know what GOLD+ does and apply it to what MIMS can do."

With the help of the IT department, which is responsible for data conversion for the KEAMS project, that transition is being made easier for those who know GOLD+ stock numbers.

"We are putting those in [MIMS] as well. People like Mel who really know their stock numbers in GOLD can still use those numbers," Lord said.

The new system is also expected to improve interfacing between USAKA/KMR and Raytheon's Off-Island Procurement office, which purchases supplies, along with the Richmond, Calif., and Honolulu offices, which receive the supplies and then send them to Kwaj. All three off-island

sites currently use Oracle for their purchasing and receiving systems, and the software difference has led to some problems, said Annette Thibodeau, Stock Material Management manager.

"We're totally blind to each other's work," Thibodeau said. "In reality [the information] is out there, but our system does not translate. When MIMS is implemented, it will be the first time that everyone will be working in the same system and, therefore, we'll see what each other is doing."

Richmond's material inspector, Rose Gacutan, here working on her business solutions and acceptance testing for off-site receiving, agreed that having all four locations on the same system will be much better.

Thibodeau, in charge of bring-

ing all food and GSK supplies to the island, said she's impressed with how user-friendly MIMS is.

"With GOLD+ you couldn't even look something up or search for something ... You can just give [MIMS] a clue, and it will go find the things for you," Thibodeau said.

Additionally, the new system will standardize the supply catalog.

"We estimate about 10 percent of the items were duplicated [in GOLD+] because each person putting a new item in would catalog an item differently from someone else," Lord said. "After the first of the year ... a trained catalog team will be responsible for entering items in the catalog."

Before MIMS is launched island-wide, office specialists will be trained, Lord said.



(Photo by KW Hillis)

**Alison Lord, Supply Systems training specialist, goes over the MIMS program with Mel Sanchez, Automotive Supply supervisor, during training sessions last week. The new software is set to go online at Kwajalein Atoll Jan. 1, 2001.**

## After \$75,000 award

# Kwajalein keeps after improvement efforts

by **Jim Bennett**  
**Kwajalein Atoll**

U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll/Kwajalein Missile Range (USAKA/KMR) and Raytheon Systems Engineering (RSE) officials are watching the numbers — the Army Performance Improvement Criteria numbers that is.

After winning \$75,000 in APIC award money this summer, the program launched into the review and analysis process recently, using survey data with hard numbers.

"These [numbers] are critical," said Joan McWilliams, USAKA/KMR Quality Program manager. "APIC moves you from making judgments based on assumptions to making judgments based on facts."

In September, senior military and civilian leaders at USAKA/KMR and in Huntsville, Ala., viewed 66 charts with more than 150 measurements via video teleconference. The measurements outlined performance in Logistical Services — aircraft, marine services, ground transportation,

housing, recycling and the fire department.

For example, Kwaj residents unhappy with the Air Mobility Command's C-141 service have quantifiable reasons. Of the four airlines that service Kwaj, including Aloha, Continental and ATI, AMC was the only air carrier to score higher than a 7 percent response of "I would not choose this carrier again." AMC picked up a 24 and 38 percent response for "comfort" and "on time" service, respectively. And AMC had a 57 percent on-time performance rate in June compared to ATI's 86 percent, Continental's 91 percent and Aloha's 95 percent ratings.

Col. Curtis L. Wrenn, USAKA/KMR commander, has said he would pursue a modification to the AMC contract that would encourage passengers to use commercial carriers.

On the other hand, residents outpaced the national average in recycling in four of seven categories.

Kwajers recycle 89 percent of their scrap metal, compared to the 43 percent national average.

Kwajalein falls behind on aluminum cans, 26 percent to 60 percent in the states, but nearly maximizes wood recycling with a 90 percent rate, compared to 9 percent stateside.

Compost (15 to 9 percent) and water (50 to 30 percent) also exceeded national standards. Locals fell shy of the national average in glass recycling, 25 to 32 percent, and behind in cardboard, 17.5 to 45 percent. However, in all categories, USAKA/KMR's trends are moving upward.

Both McWilliams at USAKA/KMR and RSE Quality Assurance prepare the numbers. In fact, for every APIC measurement, RSE prepares about 10 measurements through Quality Assurance and individual department surveys. The USAKA/KMR and RSE offices try to cull survey results so that they don't duplicate efforts.

"It's an excellent partnership," said Jonathan Jackson, RSE Quality Assurance Manager.

The statistics stem from a variety of methods including telephone interviews, point-of-sale/service surveys and e-mail sur-

veys. Each has limitations.

A point-of-sale/service survey generally attracts negative results, because happy customers generally don't fill out surveys.

"When USAKA and RSE identifies an area we want to concentrate on, we do a telephone survey," Jackson said.

Using a random selection program and a computer version of the phone book, surveyors pick out around 250 to 300 individuals. On a random survey, more than 200 people can give surveyors more than 90 percent reliability, Jackson said.

For fast results, surveyors go online. The most recent e-mail survey generated 293 responses from around 2,000 e-mail accounts, giving surveyors quick, but accurate data.

Said Jackson, "It's an ongoing process."

"We're just getting started," McWilliams agreed. "What we have now are things that are easy to measure. We'll be looking at processes and other performance measures that are harder to put into numbers," she said.

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Lt. Col. Nancy J. Currie and a student at Martha's Table demonstrate the workings of bathrooms on board space shuttles.



Lt. Col. Timothy J. Creamer and a student use an inflatable globe as they demonstrate the distance of the earth to the moon.



Lt. Col. Timothy J. Creamer talks about the types of food astronauts eat during space flights.

to  
Earth

## Astronauts visit children during AUSA convention

Article by Don Montoya  
Photos by Sharon Hartman  
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Outer space came down to earth Oct. 16 for more than 60 underprivileged children and teens when three Army astronauts from U.S. Army Space Command visited Martha's Table, a service organization for needy children in Washington, D.C.

Lieutenant Colonels Nancy J. Currie, Patrick G. Forrester and Timothy J. Creamer took time during their scheduled appearance for the 2000 Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Annual Meeting at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel to present their view of space and space travel to the Martha's Table youth.

Their tools were low-tech, fitting neatly in a small flight bag, and included things such as inflatable models of the shuttle and earth.

Currie started by using children to demonstrate what it is like to ride in the space shuttle's front seat. She also explained how the view up is sometimes down depending on the position of the space shuttle.

Forrester continued to hold the kids attention with a bit of physics using a piece of rope, an inflatable Earth, a softball size moon and a shuttle lapel pin. Creating his own version of a game show complete with audience participation, Forrester demonstrated the concept of distance in space and its relationship with the space shuttle while in orbit.

Creamer followed up his colleagues with a different view of what living in space, and more importantly, on board the International Space Station will entail. The kids were asked to think about how they would deal with simple everyday tasks such as what to eat and how one keeps clean. Their fascination with going to space was tempered by Creamer's illustration of what it would be like to travel to Mars.

"Imagine yourself with your family, brothers and sisters included, all in the space of a mini van traveling for over six months, never stopping," said Creamer.

## Army astronaut picked for NASA space shuttle mission in June 2001

An Army Space and Missile Defense Command officer has been selected as a mission specialist aboard the space shuttle *Endeavor* as it delivers components to the International Space Station (ISS) in June 2001.

A NASA astronaut, Lt. Col. Patrick G. Forrester is commander of the U.S. Army Space Command Astronaut Detachment.

The *Endeavor's* crew will deliver and install the Donatello Multipurpose Logistics Module which contains U.S. stowage racks and International Standard Payload Racks.

Forrester started work as a NASA aerospace engineer at the Johnson Space Center in 1993. In 1996, he received the Jack Northrop Award for the most outstand-

ing presentation at the 26th Annual Society of Experimental Test Pilots Symposium. Selected as an astronaut candidate in 1996, he qualified for flight assignments in 1998.

A West Point graduate in 1979, he became an Army aviator in 1980 and then served as an instructor pilot at the Aviation School. After completing a master's degree at the University of Virginia he served as a flight test engineer and a research and development coordinator in the Army Aviation Engineering Flight Activity. In 1992, he graduated from the Naval Test Pilot School as an experimental test pilot and was assigned as an engineering test pilot at the Army Aviation Technical Test Center.

With a final round of questions by eager young hands Currie fielded the inevitable question from one young girl.

"It never fails," she said with a smile. "Everyone wants to know, 'How do you go to the bathroom in space?'"

After a creative explanation the three astronauts autographed photos of themselves for the kids. Each child received a mission patch and shuttle pin.

Forrester summed up, saying, "This is what it's all about. Perhaps one day some of these kids will be traveling in space because of what we showed them today."

## Army News Briefs

### Soldiers, DA civilians can take free online information technology courses

**WASHINGTON (Army News Service)** — Active-duty and reserve soldiers, and Department of Army civilians can continue to take free online information technology courses thanks to a recently renewed contract between the Army and SmartForce, a commercial computer-based training company.

Since the Army first started offering the service in 1998, 70,000 people have used the service. The course catalog has grown and now offers training on more than 1,100 technical subjects.

The program is offered on the web at: [www.armycbt.army.mil](http://www.armycbt.army.mil).

Registration must be made on a computer tied into an Army wide-area network using a military domain address. However, once the registration is complete, students may log on with a student number and password at home, a local library or on any other computer connected to the Internet.

### Army Chief of Staff seeks to reduce turbulence for soldiers, families

**WASHINGTON (Army News Service)** — Soldiers with families will move only during the summer when school is out. Orders will be received a year in advance. Fewer soldiers will work weekends and many will receive more four-day holidays.

These are goals Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki announced he will try to reach in an effort to reduce turbulence within the force.

Shinseki spoke to soldiers at the Association of the United States Army annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

"For the past 10 years, soldiers and their families have withstood the hardships of separation, inadequate barracks and family housing, the pay gap, the cumbersome health care system and the challenges of moving from one school district to another," Shinseki said. "It is time to re-establish the balance by reducing turbulence and enhancing well-being."

Shinseki said he will try to ensure that most changes of command are conducted during June through August, while children are out of school. And he said getting permanent-change-of-station, or PCS, orders to soldiers a year in advance is a goal worth working toward.

To reduce soldiers' time away from their families, Shinseki said he will also establish a policy that prohibits weekend work in garrison unless the first general officer in the chain-of-command approves the exception.

The policies designed to reduce turbulence are the result of recommendations developed by a U.S. Army War College study group established in September 1999. In January, the study group proposed more than 20 recommendations to the Chief of Staff.

### USAREUR announces temporary, no privately owned firearms policy

**HEIDELBERG, Germany (Army News Service)** — Soldiers and DOD civilians temporarily cannot bring their privately-owned firearms to Germany, U.S. Army Europe officials said.

Effective Sept. 26, USAREUR rescinded its authorization for soldiers and civilians to ship or hand-carry their firearms to Germany until the command can work out procedures for Americans to register private firearms with the German government.

This temporary restriction is necessary to avoid the possibility of German criminal prosecution for unauthorized possession of weapons, officials said, or the possibility of punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

## SMA Tilley speaks to soldier concerns at AUSA

**WASHINGTON (Army News Service)** — Citing pay as the number-one concern of soldiers, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley answered a variety of tough questions at an AUSA breakfast for young enlisted soldiers.

Tilley, who became the 12th sergeant major of the Army in June, serves as adviser to the Army chief of staff on all enlisted-related matters and testifies before Congress on soldiers' behalf.

Tilley, who has served 30-plus years, told the soldiers that while meaningful pay increases are always a concern, financial planning is also important and is something that should be taught early in one's career.

"It's a good idea," said Spec. Mindy Pearson, 20, an administration specialist with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C. Pearson agreed that it's better to "start (investing) as soon as you can" and expressed concern about Congress still debating about a proposed military 401K equivalent investment plan that soldiers could deduct from their pay.

Another soldier, Pfc. Harold Terrell, 19, a truck driver with the 7th Transportation Group at Fort Eustis, Va., said he appreciated the Q&A forum. Terrell said he was most impressed with Tilley's genuine concern and his "will get out and do something" attitude about issues like narrowing the gap between

civilian and military pay within five years.

Tilley acknowledged that younger soldiers may find it difficult to invest considering loans and other debts they find themselves in, but added some people live beyond their means.

A total of 29 soldiers questioned Tilley in a friendly, yet at times revealing, exchange.

Another soldier, stationed in Europe, questioned the equity of policies concerning single soldiers living in barracks compared to those married living elsewhere. The single soldier disagreed with not being allowed to burn candles and incense, possess a knife with a blade longer than 3 inches, the overall visitation policy, and the no-sex policy.

"The Army thinks we're irresponsible, stupid and incompetent," the soldier told Tilley.

The soldier even suggested that those living in barracks with community latrines should receive an allowance, which drew a quick round of applause.

Tilley said the Army needs to have control of its barracks and the soldiers living in them, but agreed "some of those things we need to take a hard look at."

Tilley was the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense command sergeant major before his selection as sergeant major of the Army.

## Reserve, Guard dental benefits to expand

Reserve and National Guard families will be included as beneficiaries for the new TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) beginning Feb. 1, 2001 under Department of Defense policy guidelines. The plan will significantly expand the number of Reserve forces personnel eligible for TDP.

One important new feature will allow Reserve and National Guard members called to active duty in support of contingency operations to sign their family members up for the TDP by excluding them from the mandatory enrollment period.

"The TDP will be a tremendous benefit to National Guard and Reserve personnel in the very near future," said Charles L. Cragin, principal deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs.

"And the new policy guidelines will significantly improve the readiness of Reserve force families."

Under the current program, all military personnel are required to have at least 24 months remaining on active duty to enroll in the TRICARE Family Member Dental Plan (TFMDP). The new program will reduce this mandatory enrollment period from 24 months to 12 months of Service commitment. It also will combine the TFMDP and the TRICARE Selected Reserve Dental Program (TSRDP). For Reserve and National Guard members, this means more covered services than were available under the TSRDP and a larger provider network.

Since 1995, more than 30,000 Reserve force personnel have served on involuntary active duty tours to support presidential Reserve call-ups for Bosnia, Kosovo and Southwest Asia. Reserve and National Guard personnel ordered to active duty in support of contingency operations are limited by statute to serving an active duty tour of 270 days or less.

"The TFMDP mandatory enrollment period has precluded these reservists from enrolling their families in the TFMDP," said Cragin. "Without the new guidelines, reservists who cannot afford to pay the full premium for continuing their civilian dental plan would be denied family dental coverage while on active duty."

The new policy guidelines for TDP were recently published in the Federal Register. The program will be administered through a new contract with United Concordia Companies Inc.

"Contingency operations are ongoing and the new dental program will be a significant benefit for Reserve families in the near future," Cragin said. "The authority to waive the mandatory enrollment period demonstrates our commitment to military readiness. If our families receive better care, the more ready our Total Force will be."

For additional information, please call Army National Guard Col. Terry Jones at (703) 693-8617 or visit the Reserve Affairs web site at: <http://raweb.osd.mil>.

## NRA pistol championship

# ARSPACE employee places third

by Don Montoya  
ARSPACE

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.** — This past summer has been an exciting one in the field of sports whether it was pro golf with Tiger Woods or the U.S. winning of the gold in the Sydney 2000 Olympics. But few realize that U.S. Army Space Command had its own champion in another competition.

Roger Ward, deputy branch chief of Remote Sensing, Operations Division, U.S. Army Space Command (ARSPACE), garnered third place in the National Rifle Association's Hunter's Pistol Silhouette National Championship competition held in August.

The competition took place at the world class NRA Whittington Center in Raton, N.M.

An eight-year veteran of the silhouette competition, Ward held his own against 105 individuals from 25 states across the country. The program consisted of 120 shots fired over two days from an unsupported standing position with a Thompson Contender pistol (Caliber - .22 Hornet). Targets were placed at 25-meter intervals up to 100 meters. Individuals were then given 30 shots for each set of targets.

During the first day of competition Ward

posted a score of 57 out of 60 taking third place. He followed with a score of 55 out of 60 to achieve second place on day two. His aggregate total was 112 out of a possible 120 giving him third place in the overall event.

"I was third last year and two years before that I was second," said Ward. "So I have been second, third, third over the last three years."

"As hard as it is to believe, the same two people are ahead of me," he said, referring to fellow competitors in the event. According to Ward, first and second place have switched a couple of times between them but he has consistently placed third.

"I feel like David Duval chasing Tiger Woods," said Ward. He remarked that the individuals in question are both civilians with one coming from Washington State and the other is from California.

"Not many people in the military are involved in this particular competition."

Although his forte is the pistol silhouette competition, Ward's background in shooting goes back to his college rifle team and Army marksmanship unit at Fort Benning, Ga.

"I shot all kinds of things, M-14s, all types of different rifles for the Army, so I have a competition background that goes way back," said Ward.

Preparation for the competitions comes about six months prior according to Ward. "I stay in practice by shooting an air pistol at home in my back yard. And I have miniaturized targets of the same kind of thing we shoot on the official ranges. A firm makes miniaturized little targets and you can put them out at the corresponding distance and very closely simulate what you are doing with those in your back yard."

During the day of competition Ward uses the standard Thompson Contender pistol with custom-made grips. He has two versions, which were used in the recent competitions, one with a riflescope and one without, valued at \$1,500. His guns comply with the competition's regulations, which allow for a maximum weight of four and one half pounds. That includes the scope.

Before the match, officials weigh and inspect participants' pistols to make sure no unauthorized alterations have occurred.

"It has got to be factory off-the-shelf, available to everybody," he said. "You can't have anything specialized - something somebody made out in their garage or some special-made thing that isn't available to the public. It has got to be standard, generic, you know, mail order, or the go-downtown-and-buy type of equipment."

Ward described the targets he had to shoot.

"These targets are about 3/8 inch thick so you can shoot them with a magnum type pistol and not poke a hole in them," he said. "Just knock them off a metal stand. However, you can't just graze one and it turns. It has got to fall off the stand to be counted as a hit."

He also went on to describe the targets as being in shapes of a chicken, a pig, a turkey and a ram.

"This is very similar to a shooting gallery in a carnival," he said.

Ward said most competitors participate in for the joy of competition, despite the \$190 entry fee and incidentals such as lodging one has to incur.

"It's just a hobby," said Ward. "There is no money changing hands in these types of matches. It is all for sport."

Competitors for the annual NRA Hunter's Pistol Silhouette National Championship comprise individuals from all over, with the biggest participation from Texas. Ward pointed to the fact that the three leading states in Silhouette competitors are Pennsylvania, Texas and California. The average age of shooters, the late 30s in this competition, is increasing. Ward is hopeful younger shooters will take up the sport.



(ARSPACE Photo)

Roger Ward, third place overall winner in the NRA Hunter's Pistol Silhouette National Championship, examines the riflescope on one of his Thompson Contender pistols used during competition in August. Ward is deputy branch chief of the ARSPACE Remote Sensing, Operations Division.

## Black beret will be standard Army headgear for all

by Gary Sheftick  
Army News Service

**WASHINGTON** — Black berets, now worn by soldiers in elite Ranger units, will become the Army's standard headgear beginning next June, according to Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki.

"It is time for the entire Army to accept the challenge of excellence that has so long been a hallmark of our special operations and airborne units," Shinseki said. Adopting the berets will be "another step toward achieving the capabilities of the objective force" of Army transformation, he said.

Soldiers will begin wearing the beret June 14, "the first Army birthday of the new millennium," Shinseki said.

All soldiers, regardless of rank or branch, will wear the beret if they meet the Army standard, Shinseki said. He added that Sgt.

Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley would come up with a plan to establish the standard and implement the change.

"Putting that beret on will become part of a soldier's rite of passage," Tilley said.

"Starting next June, the black beret will be symbolic of our commitment to transform this magnificent Army into a new force - a strategically responsive force for the 21st century," Shinseki said. "It will be a symbol of unity, a symbol of Army excellence, a symbol of our values."

Shinseki said special operations and airborne soldiers will continue to wear their distinctive berets. Soldiers in airborne units wear maroon berets and Special Forces wear green berets.

Tilley said black was chosen for the beret because it's a standard color that has been worn in the past by soldiers in several types of units. Prior to the U.S. Army Rang-

ers adopting the black beret in the mid-1970s, it was worn by armor troops at Fort Knox, Ky., and by those in armored cavalry units.

"The black beret has been used by light and heavy forces before, on and off over the years," Tilley said.

Soldiers in Ranger units now wear black berets while in their dress uniforms and also when in garrison wearing the battle dress uniform. The Army's elite Ranger units may select a different color for their beret, Tilley said.

He said the BDU cap will remain the optimum headgear in the field when the kevlar helmet isn't worn. Berets just don't shade the eyes from sun and hold up to weather the way a cap does, he said.

"The saucer cap and garrison cap could go away," Tilley said, "But those are things we've got to work out."

# SMDC fields 25 runners for Army Ten-miler



(Photo by Steve Gover)

Colonel James Ward and his daughter Anne finish together.



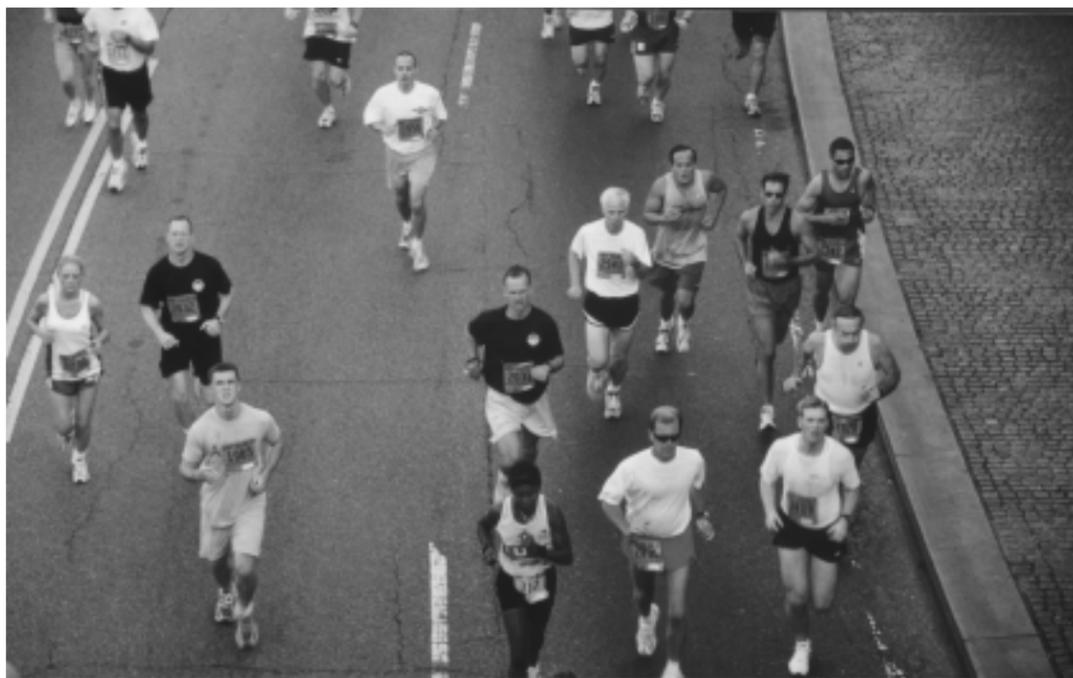
(Photo by Steve Gover)

Susan Jones, Protocol, (center right facing camera) represented SMDC civilians by running the Army Ten-Miler.



(Photo by DJ Montoya)

Capt. Edward O'Neill (number 1681) runs along the Mall during the Army Ten-Miler.



(Photo by Sharon L. Hartman.)

(Above) Maj. David Willson, number 2032, (second from left center), from ARSPACE Legal and Maj. John Rooney, number 2031 (center), 1<sup>st</sup> Space Battalion, ARSPACE during the 16<sup>th</sup> Army Ten-Miler.

Some ran to compete, some ran for the fun of it, some ran to increase family bonds, all ran with more than 16,000 others in the Army Ten-Miler, the world's largest 10-mile race.

More than 25 members of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command participated in the 16th annual run under bright skies and unseasonably warm temperatures. The race started and finished at the Pentagon with runners crossing the Memorial Bridge, running to the Capitol Building and looping back across the Potomac on Interstate 395.

The race is run in conjunction with the Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting.



(Photo by Steve Gover)

Twenty-five members of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command family gathered at the SMDC tent Oct. 16 before participating in the Army Ten-Miler, the world's largest 10-mile race with more than 16,000 runners.

# Senior training program benefits SMDC

Virginia Thompson's career reached a fork in the road during 1982. She could remain with her company, Teledyne Brown, or she could become a federal employee. She calls her choice a leap of faith.

Her faith was well founded. Eighteen years later, Thompson is a GS-13 working at the Cost Estimating and Analysis Division of SMDC. She's also one of the first graduates of the Army Competitive Development Group (CDG), a structured, three-year Army Acquisition developmental program designed to identify and develop more leaders. It's a program now being hailed as a premier opportunity for Department of Defense middle managers.

More than 740 people applied for the program when it was announced in 1997. Thompson and another current SMDC employee, Julie Hanson, were among the 25 selected. Both graduated from the program in August. Hanson is now a GS-14 working

at the Acquisition Center. Several other SMDC employees are now in the program.

"It's an excellent opportunity for GS-13s to receive intensive training, assume greater responsibility and to move into leadership positions," said Kay Ward, who monitors and mentors people in the program as the command's Acquisition Career Management Advocate. She is also the assistant deputy director of SMDC's Strategic Planning and Analysis staff office. "It provides three years of intensive experience-based training and education designed to produce trained and ready, go-anywhere, do-anything leaders for the future. When someone completes the program, they're ready to handle higher levels of responsibility. They've had a variety of management classes, financial analysis, program management, overall acquisition classes that prepares them to step into leadership positions.

"The program grew from DA's recognition of changing leadership needs coupled with limited growth potentials for employees during the late 1980s through the early 1990s," Ward said. "It was a way to increase the numbers of civilians qualified and eligible to compete for Army Acquisition positions. The value added to the command is the broad-based, intensive experience that the participants get. Also, it doesn't cost the command anything, because the program is centrally funded by DA. It levels the playing field, and gives civilian employees some of the same experiences and opportunities as the military."

Although Thompson has been stationed at SMDC for the entire three-year program, she officially became an SMDC employee Oct. 1. Now an Operational Research Analyst, she was recently presented a Commander's Award for Civilian Service for her work on the Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) Independent Cost Study Team and the PAC-3 Senior Steering Group.

In her role as the program's advocate, Kay Ward counsels SMDC employees on opportunities and pathways to success as part of her implementation of the Army's Continuous Learning Program. Her office maintains training records for all acquisition workforce members employed at SMDC.

The CDG Program was developed by a small team of senior managers, including Carolyn Thompson, then chief of SMDC's Technical Analysis and Integration Directorate (TAID). Originally open only to GS-13 members of the Army Acquisition Corps or Corps Eligible Program, today, all Level III certified members, regardless of grade may apply. Based on its success within the Army, the concept is now being expanded for DOD by Mr. Keith Charles, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Plans, Programs, and Policy, who initiated it.

For more details on the CDG program see their web page at:

<http://dacm.sarda.army.mil>.



(Photo by Steve Gover)

Ms. Kay Ward, the SMDC Acquisition Career Management Advocate (left), counsels with Ms. Virginia Thompson, a recent graduate of the Army Competitive Development Group program.

## Popular Science awards grand prize to THEL program

by Gerda Sherrill  
Huntsville, Ala.

The Tactical High Energy Laser/Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration, or THEL/ACTD, the world's first integrated laser weapon system, has been selected as the Grand Winner of the General Technology category for *Popular Science* magazine's "Best of What's New" awards for 2000. The award was given to TRW, Inc., the prime contractor on the program.

The U.S. Army THEL/ACTD is a joint program between the United States and Israel designed to negate the threat posed by Katyusha rockets to populated areas in Northern Israel.

In July 1996, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) and the Israeli Ministry of Defense (IMoD) signed a memorandum of agreement which spelled out the development and functional testing of a THEL demonstrator. The THEL system consists of subsystems that include a laser, a pointer-tracker, a command, control, communications, and Intelligence center, and a fire control radar.

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) is the executive agent for DOD in the joint THEL/ACTD pro-

gram. The IMoD also designated a program office to oversee the effort.

"The THEL team is honored to be recognized for its scientific and engineering achievements by one of the world's most prestigious consumer science publications," said Lt. Gen. John Costello, commanding general of SMDC. "With its history-making shoot-downs of Katyusha rocket salvos this summer, THEL/ACTD has served notice that laser defense systems have the potential to alter forever the rules of engagement on the tactical battlefield."

On June 6, the THEL/ACTD shot down a single Katyusha rocket carrying a live warhead. The successful intercept and destruction of the 10-foot long, 5-inch diameter rocket was performed at SMDC's High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility, White Sands Missile Range, N.M. On Aug. 28, and Sep. 22 and 25, the THEL demonstrator shot down several salvos of two Katyusha rockets fired in rapid succession.

Each year the editors of *Popular Science* review thousands of new products, technology developments and scientific achievements to select 100 "Best of What's New" awards. THEL/ACTD, along with the rest of the winners, is listed in the December issue of *Popular Science*.

## New DOD ID card uses 'smart' technology

**WASHINGTON (Army News Service)**—The Department of Defense has begun issuing a new multi-purpose card for DOD personnel. Dubbed a "common access card," it will be more than just an identification card. The card will eventually allow physical access to secure areas, permit entry into the Department's computer networks, and serve as the authentication token for the Department's computerized public key infrastructure.

The common access card is an important example of DOD's efforts to use technology to reform its business processes, to eliminate paper-based activities, to ensure the security of its networks and consequently to enhance military readiness.

The new ID is based on "smart card" technology that stores and processes information on an integrated microprocessor chip. About the size of an average credit card, it has the capability to read, write, and perform various operations on several thousand bytes of information. It will incorporate linear and two-dimensional bar codes and a magnetic stripe in order to enable the card to support other functions, either on a Department-wide or individual command basis.

Possible uses are processing charges in mess halls and updating manifest and deployment data. Other uses may include: individual medical and dental information, as well as student status, and property accountability, training, and rifle range performance.